Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 EUR-25 NIC-01 RSR-01 /121 W

P R 040117 Z MAY 73 FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1144 INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL SAIGON 7772

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON 3 MAY 73 REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE:

BIEN HOA 0107

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 3 MAY 1973

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

1. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN MR 3 REMAINED AT A REDUCED LEVEL DURING THE 24- HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 HOURS 3 MAY. THERE WERE 11 NVA/VC INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED CONSISTING OF FIVE ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF), ONE GROUND CONTACT, TWO SNIPINGS, TWO MINE INCIDENTS AND ONE RAILROAD BRIDGE DESTROYED. TON LE CHAM RANGER BASE CAMP RECEIVED 56 ROUNDS OF MIXED 61 MM AND 82 MM MORTAR FIRE, WOUNDING ONE RANGER. THE NVA/ VC AGAIN USED LOUDSPEAKERS ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE THE RANGERS TO SURRENDER THE CAMP. TWO SNIPING INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN GIA DINH PROVINCE: ONE OCCURRED THREE KMS WEST OF THU DUC DISTRICT TOWN WOUNDING ONE RF SOLDIER AND THE SECOND INCIDENT OCCURRED THREE KMS NORTH OF GO VAP DISTRICT TOWN WOUNDING ANOTHER RF SOLDIER. ONE VC WAS KILLED WHEN FRIENDLIES RETURNED FIRE. AN ESTIMATED PLATOON SIZE COMMUNIST FORCE LAUNCHED A GROUND ATTACKAGAINST THE 346 TH RF COMPANY EIGHT KMS SOUTHWEST OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT TOWN, BIEN HOA PROVINCE. NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AND NVA/ VC CASUALTIES WERE UNKNOWN. AT 1800 HOURS 2 MAY COMMUNISTS DETONATED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES ON A RAILROAD BRIDGE APPROXI-

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MATELY 10 KMS WEST OF XUAN OINTMENT, YOU MAY PROVIDE SUCH HELP.

- 3. BEFORE ALIOTO'S ARRIVAL IN PARIS YOU SHOULD ALERT THE PRC EMBASSY TO HIS INTEREST IN SEEING THEM AND IN PERSUADING THEM TO TAKE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBIT TO SAN FRANCISCO. EXPLAIN TO THE CHINESE THAT YOU WILL TELL ALIOTO DECISIONS ON THE ITINERARY ARE BEING MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN CONSULTATION WITH THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE. SAY THAT HE MAY NEVERTHELESS WANT TO CALL ON THEM AND THAT, IF SO, YOU WILL PROBABLY CALL AND ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT ON HIS BEHALF. THE PRC EMB ASSY SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE IS BEING RENDERED AS A COURTESY BECAUSE OF ALIOTO'S POSITION AS MAYOR OF ONE OF THE MAJOR CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT IT DOES NOT RPT NOT IN ANY WAY CONSTITUTE ENDORSEMENT OF HIS PROPOSAL.
- 4. AS A GENERAL RULE, YOU SHOULD NOT RPT NOT MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR PRIVATE AMERICANS. AS SUGGESTED REFTEL, YOU MAY WISH TO OBTAIN FROM THE PRC EMBASSY THE NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF AN OFFICER TO WHOM YOU MIGHT REFER PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS. IF PRESSED BY PRIVATE AMERICANS TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT AN OFFICIAL CALL TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT WOULD IMPLY TO THE CHINESE ENDORSEMENT OF WHATEVER THE AMERICAN PARTY MAY WISH TO DISCUSS AND THAT YOU ARE, OF COURSE, NOT IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE SUCH ENDORSEMENT.
- 5. IN CASES WHICH APPEAR TO WARRANT SPECIAL CONSIDER-ATION, THE EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPART-MENT. ROGERS

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 MAY 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Events

Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: **Disposition Remarks:**

Document Number: 1973SAIGON07772 Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GDS Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: SAIGON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730536/aaaahtvs.tel

Line Count: 94

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: willialc

Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 16 AUG 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <03-Oct-2001 by willialc>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971203

Subject: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 3 MAY 1973 E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

TAGS: PINS, n/a To: EA JEC PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005